

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOTE LOCATION
SHOPPING OVER A COMPUTER NETWORK
Abstract of the Disclosure

5 Methods and systems for real-time shopping of a remote physical location over a computer network. The present invention integrates so-called "telepresence" systems with on-line, electronic commerce and merchandising systems to achieve a novel, real-time shopping experience. Unlike conventional on-line catalogs, the present invention allows the user to visually navigate in real-time within an actual, physical space in order to view physical objects located therein, and to select or
10 identify such objects for purchase or further inspection. Users navigate through the physical space by viewing images captured by cameras located within the space and remotely controlling the cameras by means of a user interface to capture additional images of other selected regions within the space. According to the invention, the user interface of the present invention allows the user to identify or select viewed objects for purchase or further inquiry.